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(54) Title: DETECTION OF GIARDIA

(57) Abstract: Oligonucleotide molecules for the detection of *Giardia lamblia* (*G. lamblia*) which molecules hybridise under medium to high stringency conditions to unique 18S rDNA/rRNA sequences of *G. lamblia*, and methods for the detection of the presence of viable cells of *G. lamblia* in samples using the oligonucleotide molecules.